

BURRELL HI-LITES

Volume XVII

Halloween Issue

Issue I

New king and queen rule the school

By Katie Uzelac
Sports Editor

It's the event that students always anticipate -Homecoming. Each fall, 10 senior girls and 10 senior boys are nominated to the Homecoming court. Last year's winners were Richelle Szypulski and Derek Edwards.

This year, nominations for queen included Brooke Eaton, Jenna Herstek, Morgan Sharick, Morgan Henderson, Paige Edwards, Jessa Reimer, Erica Pope, Alesha Lindo, Courtney Angelo, and Olivia Christy. Nominations for king were Jimbo Hess, Cam Nelson, Chad Trozzi, Brian Cox, Mark Kaczanowicz, Steve Betza, Jon Novak, Luke Gathers, Andrew Eckman, and Nolan Greenwald.

Nominations are namely based on popularity among students and involvement in school activities. After school-wide

voting on Friday, September 11, the top five girls were narrowed down to Courtney Angelo, Morgan Sharick, Morgan Henderson, Jenna Herstek, and Olivia Christy. The top five boys included Chad Trozzi, Jimbo Hess, Nolan Greenwald, Brian Cox, and Andrew Eckman.

The Homecoming

however, was announced at the halftime of the football game. The court was escorted by their parents and the crown was presented by the 2008 queen, Richelle Szypulski.

Burrell High School's 2009 Homecoming King and Queen are Jimbo Hess and Morgan Sharick.

After talking to Burrell's new king, it was evident that Hess was very excited to have won. "It was good competition, anyone could've been king," Hess commented.

It was an exciting experience for both Hess and Sharick.

Jimbo said he was very excited for Morgan and that it was a special time for them both. "It was fun spending that experience with her," he added with a grin.

Congratulations to the king and queen and everyone that was nominated for the 2009 court!



2009 Homecoming Court (left to right): Brian Cox, Courtney Angelo, Chad Trozzi, Jenna Herstek, Nolan Greenwald, Morgan Henderson, Jimbo Hess, Morgan Sharick, and Andrew Eckman. Not pictured: Olivia Christy

game took place on Friday, September 18th. A pep rally was held during the shortened school day. Burrell hosted Summit Academy on the night of Homecoming. The king was announced at the pep rally during the school day because some nominees are football players. The queen,

Homecoming pep rally pix



Students enjoy the weather as they get ready to participate in the 2009 Homecoming Pep Rally



Sophomores Cary Flenory, Calvin Eberle, Darl McNutt and Freshmen Cory Kelms compete in the class relay race.



Principal Mr. Roland pies Homecoming Court member Senior Nolan Greenwald.

Burrell turns fifty

By Alina Phillips
Editor-in-Chief

A drive-in, a beach, and a pink pig are not normally things that would come to mind when thinking about Burrell. Surprisingly, these are all associated with Burrell's past. Burrell may not seem to be all that interesting but this little town has a lot of history running back centuries. Since Burrell celebrated its 50th birthday, it only

seemed fitting to describe what it was like in the past.

The area of Burrell has not just been here for 50 years, it has actually been here for centuries. The area was inhabited by the Allegewi Indians, which is how the closely located Allegheny River received its name. As everyone has learned in their history classes, Pennsylvania was named after William Penn who was given the land of Pennsylvania by the King

of England. Burrell has not always had this name. One of Burrell's history teachers, Mrs. Prather, knows some important facts concerning Burrell, "Up to 1852, Allegheny Township took up the entire northwestern corner of Westmoreland."

This means that even though Burrell is now apart of Westmoreland Township, it used to be considered part of Allegheny Township. In 1769 John Little paid our state \$181.76 for the

area that is now Parnassus. Little named Parnassus after a mountain in Greece according to the *City of Lower Burrell 40th Anniversary* booklet. This book also refers to Burrell's neighboring city of New Kensington as being named Hermitage and later the area of Arnold was purchased.

During the Revolutionary War, Fort Crawford was created near Puckety Creek. One interesting fact involving

the area surrounding Burrell was an Indian attack during the Revolutionary War against women and children in the Valley area.

Following the war, a canal along the Allegheny River was completed. Present day Pittsburgh from Burrell only takes around forty minutes depending on the traffic but when the

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canal was completed it took ten hours from Valley to Pittsburgh.

One very important person that relates to the history of Burrell is its namesake, Judge Jeremiah Burrell. The citizens of Allegheny Township wanted a new township near their own. Thus, Burrell Township was then formed. The division took place in 1879. As residents of Burrell know, there is an upper and lower part of our township. The division of Burrell took place in 1879. The eastern part of Burrell is considered the upper part whereas the western part is considered Lower Burrell.

Another important part of Burrell is Kinloch. It was named after Henry Kinloch who owned the mines in that area. The area eventually developed because it was a major mining town; houses and businesses were created for the mining families. Two tragic mining events occurred. One explosion took place on February 14, 1928 when an explosion killed thirty-four men. The *City of Lower Burrell 40th Anniversary* booklet also states that “there was never any record kept of who was working in the mine at this time, so for this reason it is possible that some of the bodies may still be buried in the mine.”

Another explosion occurred on March 14, 1929 that killed one hundred and twenty-nine men. The mine officially closed in 1936 and since the Valley Camp Coal Company owned the area, it was sold to the residents of the Kinloch area.

Lower Burrell became more residential in the 1940s when the first homes

were built on Arizona Drive. Stewart School opened in 1931 followed by the creation of Glade View School which was created in 1949 on Iowa Drive. The middle school was built in 1960 followed by the high school being built in 1964. Lower Burrell became an official city on January 12, 1959. The first mayor of Burrell was Earl F. Hill.

Burrell also had many fun attractions back in the day. There was Braeburn Beach which people swam in. The beach was the Allegheny River.

According to Mrs. Prather, there was a drive-in located at the present day location of *J.C. Penny’s* and *Ward’s* space.

There was also a restaurant called *The Pink Pig* on Wildlife Lodge Road. The restaurant was create in 1969.

Burrell keeps many traditions according to Prather, “there are the parades, Community days, and strong sports traditions.”

As a graduate of Burrell, Mrs. Prather states that the one thing she saw in the past of Burrell that she would like to see return is “the pride come back to the school.”

Prather also said that it is important to learn the history of Burrell because “it is very interesting, plus it is important to know the history of where you live.”

Burrell may seem like a small town, but we are a strong community that has much history associated with it.

Sources: *City of Lower Burrell 40th Anniversary*

Teacher starts school

By Alina Phillips
Editor-in-Chief

With a new school year comes a fresh new face to Burrell. Mrs. Wrobleski, who travels between the middle and high schools, has begun her first year at Burrell. Teaching one class of sixth grade reading and two classes of seventh grade English in the middle school and ninth grade English at the high school keeps this teacher constantly moving. Having to travel between schools may seem like a struggle, but Wrobleski enjoys it. Wrobleski knows what the high school is like and can teach future high school students learning traits they will need when arriving at BHS.

“I like seeing both perspectives (of middle and high school students). I can teach them (middle school students) things going into the direction of them going to the high school.”

Marching band stomps the field

By Lauren Benish
Features Editor

People who don’t think that marching band is a real sport obviously haven’t attempted an “8-by-5” step. While most of the audience is watching the action on the football field on Friday nights, the band is giving their own performance to the side.

No one should make the mistake that they will be forgotten. Freshman Haley Vanwagenen laughed, “We’re very loud. Louder than the cheerleaders.”

Not only do their stands reverberate with fight songs and ABBA hits such as “Dancing Queen”, “Mamma Mia!”, “Waterloo”, and “I Have A Dream”, but inside jokes and laughs also seem to follow the marching band wherever they go.

Sophomore Laura Rendos added, “We’re all so close. It’s like a big family.”

The ringleaders of this “family” are director Mrs. Becker, Senior Drum Major Joe Sharick, and Junior Drum Major Jessie Oddis. Throughout parades, pep rallies, and every other

As a graduate from Edinboro University, she is also finishing her graduate degree in reading.

Almost everyone has someone who inspires them to partake in their future



gives some insight of what it is like when you actually are a teacher.

“You go into it thinking everyday is going to be wonderful. In a school environment, you never know what is going to happen.”

Not many students can think of their teachers outside of school, but Wrobleski enjoys reading, traveling, and running in her free time.

Prior to teaching at Burrell, she taught at Vincentian Academy in McCandless for eight years and in Florida for five years.

With all that teaching expertise, she knows the key to being successful in high school, “Stay organized and use your planner. It is the number one piece to be successful in school.”

Another thing for students to keep in mind if they have Wrobleski is “to not leave the fringe on papers!”

performance, they make sure that the band always plays its best. To begin each performance, Sharick and Oddis start the ABBA show with a bang by performing a split in unison.

For two long weeks, all of the marching band members persevere through the grueling weeks of band camp. Simply mentioning this camp makes the band collectively sigh at the thought of the toil in the hot summer sun. But without this work, the half-time show would not be as perfect and entertaining.

Sophomore Lexus Oliver stated, “The best thing about band camp is that it’s crazy fun with the joking and socializing. But the worst thing is that it’s physically painful.”

Regardless of all the hard work the band puts into their routine, some of the band feels that they are unappreciated by their peers. Vanwagenen ranted, “Most sports get uniforms every two years, and we get new ones every 12.” Many will notice the new uniforms the band has worn this year with capes and metallic plumes.

While they all share the same insanity and spunk, the band debates on whether or not they should be considered a sport. Rendos disagrees, “We’re not a sport, we’re music. But I’d like to see some of the football players go through band camp.”

Unlike Sophomore Laura Rendos, the voice of the marching band, Freshman Karen Eberle, explains, “I think we already are a team; we compete, have practices, all the aspects of a team. But the environment is really more of a club.”

Whether or not the marching band is a team or not is disputable, but no one can deny the charisma and charm that they bring to the field with them.



Senior Drum Major Sr. Joe Sharick leads the band in the parade.



Floats from organizations from LBC as well as surrounding communities participated in the parade. This float featured the JV Football Team and Cheerleaders. All participants wanted to congratulate Lower Burrell on 50 years.

Bundles of joy arrive for teachers

By Natalie Gearhart
Copy Editor

A new year holds new beginnings and for several teachers at Burrell High School, that includes new additions to their families. Not only will the teachers have to prepare and teach lessons, but they will have to do so on just a few hours of sleep. The teachers who had babies last school year.



Name: Max Alexander Petrosky

Date of Birth: April 4, 2009

Sibling(s): none

Funny quality: According to his mother, “Max likes to rip off my glasses and when I tell him no, he yells at me.”



Name: Theresa and Anna McGrath

Date of Birth: April 21, 2009

Sibling(s): none

Funny quality: Although they are twins [fraternal], they are very different. Mrs. McGrath says, “Theresa loves to giggle, while Anna is known as the ‘great thinker’.”



Although long nights and busy days lie ahead for these teachers, parenting will prove to be joyous and rewarding. Congratulations to all of the teachers on their new additions to their family!

Auxiliary dazzles crowds

By Natalie Gearhart
Copy Editor

Under the Friday night lights at the Burrell High School Football Stadium, crowds not only gather to cheer on the Buccos but also are entertained by the auxiliary. The auxiliary is a dance and flag unit within the Burrell Marching Band which performs during half-time. The marching band’s theme this year is Abba and includes many popular songs. The show opens with Abba’s “I Have a Dream,” followed by “Mama Mia.” The features include “Waterloo” and “Dancing Queen,” which were choreographed by colorguard captain Leanne Woiewodski, and dance team captain Natalie Gearhart.

In order to deliver an entertaining and exciting show, the auxiliary works well in advance with the marching band prior to the start of the new school year. Tryouts first begin in late April or May. Those that tryout learn the basics of twirling a flag as well

as basic dance steps. In the span of one week, a dance and flag routine are learned. Although the participant performs both routines in front of four judges, they are chosen to be either part of the colorguard or the dance team. After learning the routines, those trying out are also judged based on marching technique, skill, performance, and attitude.

Senior Leanne Woiewodski advises that “skill is important, but attitude is more important and you should enjoy what you are doing.”

Woiewodski also claims that her favorite part of being in the auxiliary is “entertaining everyone at half-time and finally getting the chance to put on a show that we worked hard on all year.”

Mrs. Sharon Storch plans and choreographs two routines for the half-time performance.

Storch believes that “Auxiliary is important because it is an energetic accent to the music and is

exciting for the audience.” The auxiliary also meets in June and July, one day a week to work on routines. In August, the unit meets with the BHS marching band, directed by Mrs. Sandy Becker, for band camp (two weeks for seven hours a day). During the school year, the auxiliary meets once a week for three hours.

The auxiliary not only performs during half-time at the football games, but also participates in band festivals, such as the Alle-Kiski Marching Band Festival, and local parades which include the Veteran’s Day Parade, the Memorial Day Parade, and recently in Lower Burrell’s 50th Anniversary Parade.

Whether they are showing school spirit by performing at half-time or supporting the community in local parades, the auxiliary unit truly dazzles any crowd.

CONGRATULATIONS! JIMBO AND MORGAN



Seniors Jimbo Hess and Morgan Sharick participate in the LBC 50th Anniversary parade as Homecoming King and Queen.

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Bucs tackle football season

By Alex Overly
Sports Editor

The Buccaneer Football season started off with a bang of the schools cannon and a new school record for most points scored in a home game. The Senior wide receiver and outside Bucs defeated West Shamokin 63-0. Linebacker, Jesse Burton, scored two of the nine touch downs in this incredible game. One of his touchdowns was an 80 yard run off the kick of the second half. Seniors Dayne Williams, Frank Perriello, Nolan Greenwald, and Cameren Nelson scored as well. Senior Jon Novak had a fumble recovery of 25 yards ending with a touchdown, Jeremy Shybolksi, a sophomore, scored also.

In the second game, blue and white pride overflowed at Deer Lakes Stadium with a Bucco win of 42-6. Senior John Gigler was unstoppable with a 35 yard interception resulting in a touchdown, along with two others. Senior Colton Staley recovered a fumble of 45 yards contributing to one of Gigler’s touchdowns. Jesse Burton was once again seen in this game intercepting the ball for a 20 yard touchdown.

The annual homecoming game was held between the Bucs and Summit Academy, where the Bucs won 42-6. Seniors John Gigler, Frank Perriello,

and Jesse Burton all scored touchdowns. Burton’s score was set up by Junior Sean Bates’ fumble recovery. Junior Dave Yakopec had a touchdown as well. Quarterback Nelson also had two touchdowns, and threw four others.

The Bucs have overcome many obstacles over the years, and have set many goals for themselves. “They’re working together because they see the bigger picture they want to accomplish.” said Coach Walt Chambers.

Chambers went on to say that the team has matured a lot since last year and has grown as a team, which everyone can see when they come to the games.

Coach Bryan Mike, a coach at Burrell for 12 years, stated “They are a cohesive unit, like a band of brothers, and they have the talent and desire to win. Mike also added, “I expect the team to win the WPIAL. If you expect anything less, that is exactly what you will get.”

The team began practicing and working towards their goal of a winning season at the beginning of summer. Burton stated, “Last year was a lot more of a learning year, and this year everyone has really been playing well

together since we know the system a lot better.”

A key part to the success in games is the offensive line, which includes Seniors Cary Flenory, Jimbo Hess, Dayne Williams, Jon Novak, and Dave Williams.

The captains this year are Jimbo Hess, Mark Kaczanowicz, Chris Linden, Frank Perriello, and Dayne Williams.

When asked about being a captain Jimbo commented, “I like being a leader, and having the responsibility.”



Buccos celebrate after the referee confirms that their fierce fight for the fumble was a success.

He also added “I expect big things this year, including a conference.”

The captains are expected to get the team fired up before a game and practices.

Kaczanowicz said “It’s an honor to be named captain because the players are the ones who voted. I just try to set a good example and help lead our

team to victory.”

The captains expect the team to have a good attitude towards practice and to work as hard as possible. Kaczanowicz also added that the team wants to win it all and will not settle for anything less.

The team has had many stand-out players so far this season that have helped the team to achieve their numerous victories.

Chambers also pointed out that Frank Perriello, “is a great leader, and he has

up to the challenge and taken the reigns and led the team” said Mike.

Next year, many of the star players on the team will be graduating, meaning that it is up to the now juniors and sophomores to show the younger players the way to a winning season.

“Losing the leadership of the seniors will hurt, but the underclassmen understand why the hard work is done and how it helps them achieve another winning season” said Mike.

Among these seniors, many of the underclassmen have stepped up to the plate. When asked who they see has improved the most among the underclassmen, Chambers gave mention to Juniors Dave Yakopec, Brian Beattie, and Sophomore Tyler Reynolds

“He has the potential to be a division one champ,” said Chambers about Yakopec.

Pertaining to Sophomore Tyler Reynolds, a wide receiver and inside line backer, Chambers said that he shows a lot of good things and potential in the game. Captain Mark Kaczanowicz advises, “Work hard in the off-season and enjoy every minute of playing, it goes by very fast.”

Big things are expected from all the players, including a conference championship at the end of the season.

Golf team putts to victory

By Katie Uzelac
Sports Editor

Burrell Golf has started again. The 2009 season has begun and is well underway this year. After losing big impacting players Derek Jones and Colin Wilson to graduation, the team has struggled to fill their spots. Sophomore Sam Barrett commented, “The team is doing well for how young the majority of the players are. This year is a developing year for most of the players. We hope to progress and do better next year.”

Even though the team

may not be as successful as they were last year, losing seniors forces underclassmen to step up and take on bigger roles on the team.

Another sophomore, Frank Trozzi, is a returning player to the team, “I play a bigger role this year because we have only a few seniors, and a lot of freshmen.”

New to the team this year

was Junior Andrew Peck. Assistant Coach Mr.



Seniors Brian Haley, Angelo Chiaraluna, and Freshmen Brian Alex Krnarcik, Sam Olearchick warm-up before the match.

Croushore said that having Peck on the team was a good addition. Other stand out players he mentioned include returning players Trozzi and Senior Brian Haley.

So far this year, the team is 3-5. September 22 marked the halfway point of their season against Freeport. The day before, Mr. Croushore said that they competed in an individual tournament.

He commented, “Many of them played well, and I hope that it gave them confidence for today’s match (against Freeport).”

Even though the team is struggling, players are confident that this is just a building year, and that they will be more successful as younger players gain experience. Also, this year is focused mainly on making the underclassmen step up and help to carry the team. The future of Burrell Golf is looking good.

Ambridge Tournament opens doors

Sisterhood serves wins

By Darren Myers
Photo Editor

The girl’s soccer team kicked their way into first place at the Ambridge Tournament. They are the only team from Burrell to win this tournament. The boys and girls teams have gone there for the past four or five years. They beat Ambridge (1-0) and Trinity (2-1) on their way to win it all. Head Coach Javier Gomez-Calderon and first year Coach Ashton Graham were thrilled with the way their team played.

This win may have been a surprise to many people because the team lost seven starting seniors last year due to graduation. That is a difficult obstacle for any team to overcome. Because of all the injuries that occurred last year, the team was to some extent prepared for this season. This season the Lady Bucs have nine seniors. They are Brittany Bice, Arianne Damico, Brooke Eaton, Taylor Garrison, Jenna Hersteck, Hanna Hoover, Morgan Sharick, Jaycie Sluss, and Ashley Wolfhope, of these seniors, five of them start. The team had some doubt about how good they would be so it came as a shock when an opportunity at winning Ambridge came their way.

The captains of the team are Seniors Brooke Eaton, Jenna Herstek, Morgan Sharick, and Junior Abby Streblick. For Captain Brooke Eaton, winning the

Ambridge Tournament was a big deal. Eaton believed that Ambridge was a stepping point in learning what positions work out for which person. This obviously worked out in the best way.

When asked about the team this season Eatoncommented “We are a young team and I am impressed with how everyone has played.”

The championship was a great accomplishment for the whole team but for Freshman Jenna Ehrlich it was even more of a big deal. Ehrlich either starts or is a substitute for the varsity team. What makes it more special is that she recorded one goal during the tournament.

When asked how much more difficult high school soccer is than playing Tri-City, Jenna stated “I didn’t have to try as hard for Tri-City but now that I am in high school I have to work harder because the girls are older than I am and have a lot more experience.”

Springdale is most likely the team’s toughest opponent this year. When asked about playing Springdale most players said that if they beat them it would be an accomplishment. Unfortunately though for the Burrell team, they lost 3-0 in their game against Springdale. Hopefully they can pull it together and win sections. The team played their last home game last week, which was a victory against Valley (3-0)!

By Lauren Benish
Features Editor

If you hear Nelly’s “Heart of a Champion” blaring from the tennis courts, then you know that that the Girls Tennis Team is preparing for another victory. All of the players gather around a toy rake during a pep talk from the captain as just one of the many rituals the team has carried on for years.

According to Coach Mr. Facemyre, the most important tradition is that, “All of the girls have dedication and purpose. Without them they are always determined to do the best they can be to be good sports, and to represent the Burrell Community at the highest level.”

For the last three years, Facemyre has led the Girls Tennis team through countless matches and practices.

Every year he instructs the team, he explained, “The girl’s tennis team attracts some of the most motivated, dedicated, and positive young ladies in Burrell High School. It’s a pleasure to help them in their quest to win the section title.”

Last season, the team was undefeated until their match against Valley for the section title. Based on the games so far this season, the Vikings are shaping up to be their rival once again. Team captain, Senior Alina Phillips assured, “This year we’re very focused on winning the section title back from Valley because they were the only team that beat us last year. So we’re really focused on practicing hard and making every point count.”

Although the team is disenchanted by last year’s loss, they won’t let it affect their work ethic.

Phillips explained, “Everyone has put all of

their effort into everything, every point, and doing the best that they can to win the title back this year, even though we lost a lot of starters this season.”

As of the Valley match on September 16th, the girls beat their rival because of their hard work.

Unlike in the past, the players are not evenly distributed throughout the class levels. Facemyre elucidated, “We have six returning seniors this year who are all starters, and the

important that we get along to avoid as much drama as possible with the team because it makes it easier to practice. It’s important to support each other. We are friends on and off court.”

Each year, the team hosts a sleepover in the fall where they collectively decide who next year’s captain will be. Since they are all great friends, they all seem to share the same weakness which is not really a fault.

Facemyre described,



Senior Captain Alina Phillips gives her team a pep talk before the last home match. This match was also Senior Night.

rest of the team is equally made up of sophomores and freshmen, no juniors. Next year will be a new experience.”

The starting seniors on the team are Alina Philips (First Singes), Lauren Ockree (First Doubles), Hannah Feroce (Second Singles), Kristi Smith and Jessa Manga (Second Doubles), and Maria Jacob (Third Singles). Additionally playing for the team are Sophomores Caroline McCallister, Maddie Pattock, Lisa Wood, and Rachel Wilson (First Doubles), who is the only underclassman starter, and Freshmen April Clark, Emily Feroce, Jessica Linza, and Domenica Trozzi. Along with the new freshmen, another new edition to the team is manager Sophomore Amber Bowser.

Their success comes not only from the hard work and dedication they show at each practice but also from the bonds that all of the girls have.

Phillips insisted, “It’s

“There’s a difficult balance between mental toughness and being kind, considerate people. They’re always apologizing to the other people when things are going too well their way. They feel compelled to be nice.”

Even though Facemyre jokes about how sportsmanly they are to each other, he added, “Often times, the players are harder on themselves then they need to be. Their perception says that they don’t do enough but I see them working hard. They never give up; I see that they practice from the time they go onto the court until they come off. And we have some of the most dedicated sports’ parents at Burrell High School. Most of the varsity parents are there at every match, but we could use more student support.”

So next time you see the girls playing on the courts, go watch!



Boys’ soccer kicks into action

By Rachel Wilson
Opinions Editor

Burrell’s Boys’ Soccer consistently does well. This 2009 season hopefully will not be different. Even though last year was a rebuilding year with only two returning seniors that started, the team came in second place in their section. The boys started off this season with a big bang, winning against Indiana 2-0. Coach Roberts thinks the lineup has a strong motivation to win games. Their starting lineup begins with seniors and captains, Chad Trozzi, Brian Cox, and Vinnie Riddle. The captains are experienced and know what it takes to be a successful team according to Junior Brandon Daughtry. The juniors

include Eric Sokol, Calvin Eberle, Jeff Clark, Cole Harkins, and Mike Clear. The starting sophomores are Kodey Koscianski, Kyle Legters, Justin Hatbob, and Brian Hurley.

“It’s a strong lineup, and we are all friends, so the chemistry is good,” Captain Chad Trozzi, who plays Forward, Trozzi continued with a huge smile on his face realizing he just said the team has “chemistry”. The team seems to get along pretty well with one another. Chad agrees with Coach Roberts added that the season is

going to be successful. “But it’s also gonna be fun,”

he likes showing leadership. Mr. Roberts also stated the season will be a good one, since they have already competed well against stronger teams. He believes their hard work and concentration will determine how far they go.

Coach Roberts has been coaching the team for two years, “I like teaching them the technical, tactical, fitness, and psychological aspects of the game. All four

are needed to be a complete player.”

Daughtry, who is goalie, believes the season should be pretty successful as long as the team works hard, “Our defense is really strong, our midfielders control the field well, and our forwards keep pressure on the other team and score goals.”

The team’s record is 14-1-1 so far and has defeated Ambridge, Indiana, Greensburg Salem, Derry, Deer Lakes, Knoch, Valley, East Allegheny, Highlands, and Springdale. Indiana and Mt. Pleasant are going to be their biggest competition this year says Daughtry. Hopefully they will continue to do well even against their best competition.



Players Junior Aric Feliers and Sophomores Mike Clear and Darren Myers warm up with Coach Roberts

Trozzi added. Trozzi, who has been playing since he was 5, enjoys being captain because

Horoscopes for new school yr

By Gabby Grillo
News Editor

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)- This past summer has you broke now. You’ll soon be able to find a nice job that you enjoy as well.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)- You made a big mistake over the summer. You think if you just leave it alone it will work itself out. It won’t, you have to face it in order to fix it.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)- You don’t think this past summer was that much fun and you hope school will be better. It won’t be all that fun. Just anticipate next summer.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)- You believe this school year is going to be a waste of your time. You just have to get back into the swing of things and you’ll see how good it can be.

Pisces (February 19-March 20)- Your really good friend moved away this summer. You’ve kind of given up hope on seeing him again, but during a holiday break this year, go out of your way to visit him.

Aries (March 21-April 19)- You are starting over new and fresh this year.

Keep up what you’re doing. You’re making really good choices for your future.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)- You had a rough summer, but this school year, everything you’ve worked for will pay off.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)- You had a terrific summer and just didn’t want it to end. Just wait until the middle of the school year and you’ll have just as much excitement to be back in school.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)- The school year broke up your summer romance, but as long as you two keep in touch, you’ll see it was more than just a summer fling.

Leo (July 23-August 22)- You relaxed all summer long to get ready for the new school year. Be prepared for all the hard work coming your way.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)- Your summer was pretty crazy. Now it’s time to calm down and focus on the school year ahead of you.

Libra (September 23-October 22)- You made some extra cash this summer and you didn’t blow it all on school clothes. Hold on to it; it’s going to come in handy.

LOCAL HALLOWEEN LEGEND ADVENTURES

By Gabby Grillo
News Editor

Halloween is the time to explore people’s curiosity about some things they normally would not question or think about. So around Halloween this year, try to make it to these five places around the area:

The first is the “Fawn Tunnel” in Fawn Township in Allegheny County. Many people already know about this and may even have gone there. This is the site where a little girl was riding her bike and was hit by a semi truck and killed. Her spirit is said to haunt the tunnel after midnight. The legend is if you go to the tunnel late at night, sit in the middle of it with the car turned off, and beep the horn three times, the little girl may be seen. It is also said the truck barreling down the road that hit her can be heard. People may see the bike, and the car may even leave with little hand prints all over it.

Another haunted tunnel is the “Corvette Tunnel.” It is located in South Park in Allegheny County. The rumor states that the tunnel is haunted by a girl that

died when she slammed her Corvette into another car while drag racing. Legend has it if someone goes through the tunnel just as it hits midnight, her terrified screams can be heard, along with two racing motors, screeching tires, and the



lights of the Corvette coming at your car until you drive right through them.

There is also the Westmoreland County Courthouse Square located in Greensburg which was built on top of the old county jail grounds. It was used from 1900’s-1960’s. Many people have reported witnessing transparent people just lingering in the air. At that time in history, the form of execution was by hanging. It is said that the inmates that were put to death still haunt the area.

Moving over to the Allegheny County Jails, it is believed that “Culp’s Ghost” haunts the old Allegheny County Prison. It now houses the juvenile

and family section of the Common Pleas Court. When it was still the prison, W.A. Culp was awaiting trial there on the row for murderers. Before his trial for the murder of his brother, he committed suicide. The rest of the inmates in that row were haunted by his ghost and were not able to sleep. Murderers’ row requested to be moved because of the haunting. Eventually the warden did move them.

Last is Renzie Road, better known as “Thirteen Bends.” Renzie Road is located in Allegheny County. The road has thirteen bends going up the hill and twelve going back down. It is the site of a suicide, when a man hung himself in the trees. It is also near an old orphanage that burnt down in the 1800’s. If you go there at night and turn off your headlights for ten seconds and then drive your car not exceeding the speed limit of five miles, you can hear the children’s screams, smell the smoke, and your car may have ashen handprints when leaving.

Enjoy Halloween this year and if the time is available, check some of these places out. Put the legends to the test.

Cell phone rule causes controversy

By Christina Stoltz
Staff Writer

The new cell phone rule has been put into place to stop distractions in the classroom so that students will pay more attention to what the teacher is saying. With the addition that parents would have to come to the school to retrieve their child's phone, the parent might also punish their child.

Mr. Roland said, "I see no need for cell phones during school hours."

Students do not agree; they do not like the new rule and do not see the purpose of putting such strict rules against texting, especially in study hall when they have nothing else to do.

"I don't see the point in trying to make the rule stricter because people are still going to do it anyways, so they'll just get in more trouble than before. That is not going to stop them. A lot of students will just have an insane amount of detentions," said Senior Ashley Chronister.

Other students have concern for their teachers or principals looking through the phone once it has been taken off of them. Students do not need to worry about that though because teachers and principals will not look through the phone unless they have a good reason for doing so, like suspicion of threats or bullying. If



students still have concerns about their teachers looking through their phone, they could simply take out the battery then hand it to the teacher.

"School officials cannot search a cell phone that they confiscate from a student unless they have a reasonable suspicion that the contents of the phone violate a law or a school rule. So, for example, if a teacher confiscates a

student's cell phone because it rings in class, the teacher would not be allowed to search the cell phone. On the other hand, if students are sending text messages to each other to cheat on a test, school officials could confiscate the phones and then search them to see if they contain messages that would show the students were cheating" replied Staff Attorney Sara Rose from the American Civil Liberties Union(ACLU) of Pennsylvania.

If the student refuses to give their cell phone to the teacher, then the punishment will be suspension and that is extreme just to keep your cell phone for the rest of the day. The full punishments and details on this new rule is on page thirty of the school planner, so students have been warned about the consequences. At least this rule is not as bad as some of the other schools policies' on cell phones. At least students are allowed to use your cell phone if a teacher says that you can, in some schools the students can't even do that.

Mission not accomplished: no senior trip

By Christina Stoltz
Staff Writer

This year the senior class did not meet the goal of passing students on the PSSA's, resulting in no senior trip. The reason for setting the goal was for students to work hard to try to accomplish the trip. For all those students that did work hard and did good on the PSSA's, Mr. Roland agrees that those students do deserve individual rewards. These awards will not resemble the senior trip because Mr. Roland stated,

"We win as a team and we loose as a team."

Things like senior release are a reward, but they could do better on the individual rewards, and would be open to serious suggestions from the students. The students that are doing well can only try to lead the example for those students that don't even

care; they could help with tutoring or by encouraging the other students. All that struggling students need to understand a subject better is available to them, whether it is from another student or from a teacher. Unfortunately, for some reason struggling students don't seem to want to get the help. Some struggling students just keep thinking that they will be out of school soon and grades do not matter.

"I've noticed as a school, students are very academically passive, I've seen athletes try to be the best at a sport but don't have the same competitiveness in the classroom. When I was at Franklin Regional students always wanted to be the best, if a students ranking in the class was number 10 then the student would want to be number 9 and would work to be

better and when they got to number 9 they would then work to be number 8, but not here. Here if a student were at number 10 then they would say 'I'm at number 10, I'm good', there isn't that same competitiveness in the classroom," said Mr. Roland. Students need to start working harder at school if they want to get anywhere in life. If a student cannot work hard now, then what are they going to do when they get a job? They will have to work hard at whatever job they want to get, even if a college degree is not needed, but the punishment for laziness or not working hard is being fired. School should help to prepare for the real world.



Writing a story for success

By Eric Sokol
Business Manager

Being a school that is typically an athletic powerhouse, the art programs are improving rapidly. Whether it is in the art room painting pictures or in the music wing creating music, the students create a connection with their product. So why not give them another medium to excel at? Why only limit them to art classes, playing in the band or singing in the choir? At Burrell, there is an answer that needs to be found. More students than you think write on their own everyday. Whether students are writing during class because they are bored, or at night right before they go to bed, it is happening. It can be as simple as one line rhymes or even as elaborate as creating songs. Those students, no, those members of society deserve to be taught how to channel those thoughts and take their writing to an entirely new level.

According to Mrs. Lovic, having a creative writing class allows students to express themselves in a new way. This course would consist of the study of several forms of poetry, learning to effectively use literary devices, and even the creation of their own form of poetry. Also, the class would teach students the proper mechanics of writing a story. This will include characterization, theme, plot, point of view and much more. The theme of the entire class would be about students creatively expressing themselves and their story into an organized short story or poem. In today's society doesn't everyone need an outlet? The "real" world around us as a student body is rapidly coming closer and closer to reality, and who is to say that we will not need writing skills, or even just a way to express ourselves five years from now? It could be something as simple as just going to a coffee shop poetry reading on Tuesdays or even as powerful as it becoming your profession and this class could be

your window to creating a career.

Don't let the class title scare you away. Though it does have the word writing in the title, it will not be just another writing class like we've all been used to. It's short stories and poems, for the people who are interested; it's exactly what you want to write. This class is more than just another class that would be added to the curriculum. This class is a way to take that extra step to break down the barriers that have been set by generations before us. This is a chance to branch out, take the initiative, and become the initial group; the pioneers of this class. To those who want this to happen, this should be more than just a class. Regardless of whether or not you support this cause, it will always be more than just a class. This is not just for the people in the high school today; it's for the younger students below us. Allow them to help find themselves when they reach the high school. Allow them this opportunity to branch out, if not for today, allow this change for tomorrow. Allow this to happen so students don't dread the first day of their high school career. This class can be as beneficial as the students allow it.

After having a meeting with our very own Superintendent Mrs. Wanger and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Loughead, this class seems to be very doable. They were on the same page and even feel the same way as I do now. They want to help speed up the process in this class but they cannot if there is no interest in the class. So get together, make a petition, show interest in this class and help speed up the process. The school is not going to produce something that doesn't have any interest but if they know there is a group of students out there that want to make this happen, it has a better chance to be an actual product of our work.

Wintergirls heats things up

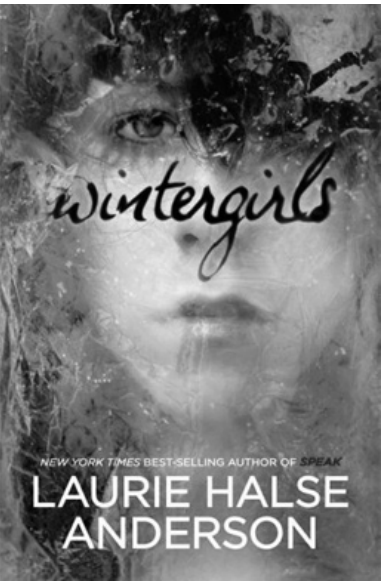
Television lovers rejoice this September

By Adrienne Bracken
Copy and Entertainment
Editors

Eighteen-year-old Lia Overbrook loses the only person who had ever filled the slot labeled “best friend” in her life. Her biological mother goes into control freak mode too often; in addition, her father never listens, and her stepmother is blind. Add an extreme eating disorder and severe, self-inflicted pain to that list, and the result composes the life of main character Lia in Laurie Halse Anderson’s new book *Wintergirls*.

Acclaimed author Anderson begins the tale of *Wintergirls* with the brutal, abrupt death of Cassie, Lia’s former best friend. Cassie mysteriously dies alone in a barren motel late one evening after having been missing for several nights. Before passing on, Cassie calls Lia thirty-three times in a final effort to plead for help before her life ends. Lia fails to pick up, and her troubles appear in full force after this event.

Every corner she turns, every hall she walks down, and every attempt at sleep brings Lia to Cassie’s haunting ghost. Cassie whispers to her friend in the night, telling her she will soon join her in the space between life and death. Lia’s health rapidly begins deteriorating after she



begins seeing Cassie. She hardly eats, sleeps much too long, and once again begins cutting herself.

Anderson spins the story flawlessly using rich, metaphorical diction and intense imagery. She appeals to the private tragedies that plague so many young adults in today’s world. The novel describes the love, loss, regret, and fears so many people battle. The connection Anderson establishes with the reader is both strong and genuine.

Wintergirls achieves a frightening depth few other novels reach. The suspense Anderson builds lasts until the final page of the novel and keeps the reader turning pages, hungry to eat the delicious words she feeds. The novel is worth every penny spent, every minute taken, and every fast-paced beat of the heart it induces.

Readers can purchase *Wintergirls* in stores now.

Dark Was the Night brightens the day

By Adrienne Bracken
Copy and Entertainment
Editors

Imagine a world in which no one is afraid to die, where lovers travel on trains to meet one another, where Amazing Grace is the sweetest sound, and where Snow White can be called upon. *Dark Was the Night*, an indie-themed compilation album, captures all of the aforementioned fantasies in its songs.

Dark Was the Night came to life when Aaron and Bryce Dessner, members of the band The National, and John Carlin, founder of the Red Hot Organization, came together with the idea of an exclusive album

focusing solely on the talent many of today’s most popular indie songwriters possess. The album’s main purpose is to raise funds for the Red Hot Organization, an international charity dedicated to obtaining money and awareness for the AIDS epidemic.

Each album begins and ends with a bang. The first disc opens with the song “Knotty Pine” by the Dirty Projectors and David Byrne. The song plays like a jingle, both euphoric and dance-inducing. The album finishes with Sufjan Stevens’ slow, haunting “You Are the Blood.” The second album picks up on “Well-Alright,” a spastic, addicting sing-

By: Melanie Weiland
Staff Writer

The month of September brings back everyone’s favorite television shows. New seasons of *The Office* and *It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia* return on Thursdays, starting September 17th. *The Office*, a comedy about the daily lives of cubical workers, airs on Thursdays at 9:00 p.m. on NBC. *It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, another comedy, airs the same day at 10:00 p.m. on FX. This show centers on a group of lowlife friends who run an unsuccessful bar in the city of Philadelphia. Both of these shows have humor packed into every second. The viewers will really cackle at the jokes the cast

members make during the shows.

Along with these previously mentioned programs, a series starring Joel McHale, called *Community*, airs on Thursdays after *the Office* on NBC. *Community* is a brand new television series that focuses around a bunch of misfits that form a study group at a Community College. As the hilarious Joel McHale is in *Community*, it’s a humorous comedy that really leaves the audience laughing.

Other shows returning in September include *House* and *Glee*. New episodes of *House* air on FOX at 8:00 p.m. on Mondays. Catch new episodes of the

brand new series, *Glee*, on Wednesdays at 9:00 p.m. on Fox. *Glee* follows a show choir club in a high school that is a bit competitive. This series is packed with musical numbers, wit, and stereotypical teenagers. It could make the viewer look at high school in a whole different way.

If homework or other activities are getting in the way of catching the newest episodes, a lot of networks have the episodes online as a way to catch up. Also, TiVos can really come in handy. And it’s important to remember that television is a nice short break from reality every once in a while.

“District 9” now in Theaters!

By Sam Barrett
Co-Business Editor

In contrast to what other people believe about this article, which is “This is just another dumb alien movie”, the catch is it is NOT just another dumb alien movie and the plot is much different than those in other Sci-fi action films. In a smoky fog above Johannesburg, Africa is a massive, motionless, floating spaceship. Everyone in the world is confused as to how it got there and do not know what to do about it, so they just wait to see what will happen. Eventually, as nothing seems to be happening with the floating spacecraft in the sky, they decide to investigate. Once inside the spacecraft, they discover that over a million

aliens are inside and seem lost, confused, and unable to take care of themselves. As the movie progresses, the MNU (Multi-National United) decides to put them in internment camps. The movie continues with that general plot, and seeing it in theaters will help find out the rest of the mystery.

Junior Leah Mazza, who saw the movie, raved, “Yeah, I like that movie because it wasn’t what I expected it to be. It had a lot of gore in it, and action. And the aliens were awesome and the ending was amazing.”

Mazza says that she generally enjoys gore and sci-fi movies. Kirk Honeycutt of HollywoodReporter.com states, “Bottom Line: A

genuinely original science fiction film that grabs you immediately, not letting go until the final shot.”

This movie had a lot of unexpected twists and turns and is not at all what everyone expected it to be thus deserved three stars out of four.



along composed by Spoon. Just as on the first disc, the second calmly ends, this time with a song entitled “Love vs. Porn.” Kevin Drew croons like a figure from a vague dream, providing the listener with a chance to reflect on the album’s intense emotions.

The two-disc set features a smattering of beautifully crafted independent songs between the openings and closings. Most prominent are Feist’s duets. “The Train Song,” recorded alongside music

icon Ben Gibbard (Death Cab for Cutie, The Postal Service) weaves the tale of the emotions two estranged lovers feel while traveling on paths that will ultimately reunite them. The song’s minimal acoustics bring out the sheer vocal elegance and power both Feist and Gibbard possess. Feist displays her vocal abilities a second time in a duet with Grizzly Bear entitled, “Service Bell.” Light music in the background again allows the singers’ voices to rise up apart from the music

and enrapture the listener. Countless other well-known indie acts compile the album, including The Arcade Fire, Iron and Wine, My Morning Jacket, Cat Power, The Decemberists, The National, Bon Iver, Andrew Bird, and many others. All intertwine to compose a gorgeous album that plays out like a fairy tale for indie music enthusiasts.

Source: www.amazon.com